

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 04274 140443Z
ACTION EA-12

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O 140432Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6068
CINCPAC HONOLULU

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 04274

FOR: PGM/P PGM/R VOA, STATE FOR EA/ANZ CINCPAC FOR USICA
ADVISOR

EO 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION CHINA AND JAPAN

1. THE NEW ZEALAND "HERALD" IN ITS THIRD EDITORIAL
ON MONDAY, AUGUST 14, COMMENTED UNDER THE HEADING
"NEW ORDER IN FAR EAST":
2. "IN CONCLUDING A TREATY OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP,
CHINA AND JAPAN - TWO ENEMIES OF OLD - HAVE CREATED A NEW
DIMENSION IN EAST ASIA, IF NOT IN WORLD POLITICS. THE
PACT SUCKS INTO THE CHINESE ORBIT THE THIRD LARGEST
INDUSTRIALISED ECONOMY AFTER THE UNITED STATES AND THE
SOVIET UNION. IT WILL INFURIATE THE RUSSIANS, WHO HAVE
OPPOSED THE MOVE EVER SINCE IT WAS FIRST MOOTED IN 1975.
3. "CERTAINLY THE ALLIANCE, AT THIS STAGE, LOOKS TO HAVE
NO AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS OR WARLIKE CAPABILITY. IF, HOW-
EVER, THE CONTROVERSIAL ANTI-HEGEMONY CLAUSE HAS BEEN
RETAINED, THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT THE SIGNATORIES HAVE
SOVIET EXPANSION VERY MUCH IN MIND...
4. "IN FORMALLY MAKING A FRIEND OF A NATION THAT 40
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YEARS AGO WAS AN IMPLACABLE ENEMY, JAPAN TAKES THE CHANCE
OF TURNING RUSSIA INTO A BITTER ANTAGONIST, IF NOT A FOE.
THE SOVIET UNION PLAINLY SEES THE PACT AS PROVOCATIVE.
WHILE THE TWO PARTNERS MAY DENY SUCH A CLAIM, THERE IS
NOTHING TO SAY THE TREATY WILL NOT PAVE THE WAY FOR
MILITARY CO-OPERATION IF THE SINO-SOVIET QUARREL WORSENS."
ANDERSON

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NNN

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